

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed May 11, 2006 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-7 were previously canceled. Claim 13 is canceled. Claims 8-12 and 14 are pending in this application, with claim 8 being the only independent claim. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

New independent claim 8 is amended to specify in more detail that the auxiliary processing device comprises "one of a folder, a cross-cutting device, a sheet stacker, and a roll winding-up system" and is an "external" device relative to the printing press. Support for these limitations is found in previous claim 13 as well as in Fig. 1 of the present application.

Further, new independent claim 8 is amended to clarify that the further positioning device which is fixed to the floor is "arranged outside of the printing press". Support for this limitation is found, for example, in Fig. 1 and at page 3, lines 10-23 of the English translation of the original application.

Dependent claims 10-12 and 14 have been modified to amend minor errors and to be consistent with the changes to independent claim 8.

Summary of the Claimed Invention

The following summary is presented for clarification of the recitations which are specifically addressed below. According to the present invention and as now explicitly contained in the claim language of claim 8, the present invention is directed to an apparatus for positioning an external auxiliary processing device, which can be a folder, a cross-cutting device, a sheet stacker, or a roll winding-up system, relative to the printing press. The auxiliary processing device and the printing press are two separate units which are mounted separately. In order to

arrange the auxiliary processing device in a predetermined manner relative to the printing press and to be able to exchange the auxiliary processing device easily (see page 1, lines 26-29), a first positioning device is mounted on the external auxiliary processing device, a further positioning device is arranged outside of the printing press and fixed to the floor relative to the printing press, and the first positioning device can be engaged with the further positioning device such that the external auxiliary processing device is reproducibly positioned at an operating position in relation to the printing press.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102

Claims 8, 10-11, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,384,012 (Zernov).

Claims 8-10 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,239,001 (Kataoka).

Claims 8, 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,966,352 (Nuttin).

Independent claim 1 recites “an external auxiliary processing device, which comprises one of a folder, a cross-cutting device, a sheet stacker, and a roll winding-up system, relative to a printing press” and “a further positioning device arranged outside of the printing press and fixed to a floor relative to the printing press”.

Zernov discloses a printing cart C including a printing cylinder 14 for a printing press P. The printing cart C is supported on the floor F by four wheels 10, 11, 12, and 13 (col. 2, lines 12-15, Figs. 1 and 2), and comprises four tapered mounting pins 26, 27, 28, and 29 rigidly fixed to the printing cart C. The pins 26, 27, 28, and 29 register with holes 6, 7, 8, and 9 in the frame of the printing press P and can be fixed there by brackets B, B1 and bolts 30, respectively

(col. 2, lines 27-32). Further, an inverted U-shaped channel iron 31 is rigidly secured to the frame of the printing press P, and a roller 31a is mounted on the printing cart C. When assembling the printing cart C to the frame of the printing press P, the roller 31a is guided in the channel iron 31 so that the tapered pins 26, 27, 28, and 29 can slide into the holes 6, 7, 8, and 9 on their tapered surfaces thus raising the cart free of ground (col. 2, lines 45-52, and Fig. 9).

The printing cart C including the printing cylinder 14 cannot be considered to be the recited auxiliary processing device according to claim 8 of the present invention (i.e., "a folder, a cross-cutting device, a sheet stacker, or a roll winding-up system"), nor does it constitute an "external" device, since the printing cylinder is one of the basic components and an integrated part of the press (see col. 1, lines 14-16 of Zernov indicating that the cart and its cylinder are accurately and positively forced "into exact registry with the rest of the press"). Correspondingly, Zernov also fails to disclose a positioning device for mounting an external auxiliary processing device, which positioning device is "arranged outside of the printing press and fixed to a floor relative to the printing press". Thus, a skilled person could not even derive any hint from Zernov directed to the external mounting of an auxiliary processing device outside of the printing press.

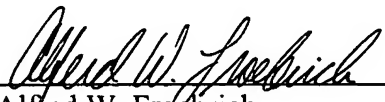
Similarly, both Kataoka and Nuttin show further integrated printing press systems which clearly fail to disclose, teach or suggest an "external auxiliary processing device, which comprises one of a folder, a cross-cutting device, a sheet stacker, and a roll winding-up system" and a "positioning device arranged outside of the printing press and fixed to a floor relative to the printing press" as expressly recited in independent claim 8. Therefore, claim 8 is deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

Dependent claims 9-12 and 14, each being dependent on independent claim 8, are allowable for the same reasons expressed above with respect to independent claim 8, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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